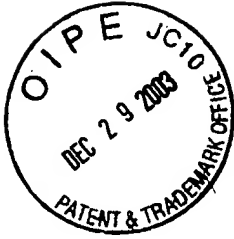


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**PATENT**

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**RECEIVED**  
**JAN 12 2004**  
**TC 1700**

Applicant: Starz et al. Examiner: Wills, M.  
Serial No.: 09/915,64 Group Art Unit: 1746  
Filed: July 27, 2001  
For: Ink for the production of membrane electrode units for PEM fuel cells  
Customer No.:

**23719**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Kalow & Springut LLP  
488 Madison Avenue, 19th Floor  
New York, New York 10022

December 23, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

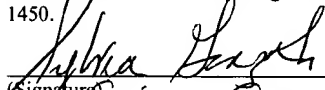
Sir:

This Amendment and Reply is in response to the Office Action mailed July 1, 2003 in the above-referenced patent application. In view of the remarks and amendments provided herein below, reconsideration is respectfully requested. The time set for filing a response to the Office Action expired on October 1, 2003. Applicants submit herewith a three month-petition for an extension of time. Accordingly, the time for responding to the Office Action now expires on January 1, 2004 and this response is timely filed.

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**Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
(Signature)  
Sylvia Gonzalez  
(Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)  
December 23, 2003  
(Date)